



## Doctors for Early Childhood

[www.doctorsforearlychildhood.org](http://www.doctorsforearlychildhood.org)

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Minnesota House of Representatives, Children and Families Finance and Policy Committee

St Paul, MN

Re HF 1277

Chair Pinto, Vice Chair Keeler, Lead Daniels, and Members of the Committee,

This is truly a monumental time for Minnesota's children and families. The Early Learning Scholarship bill funding allows us to deliberate on universal early learning and care for all Minnesota children. While CCAP funding is equally important, the parent choice aspect of ELS is important to many Minnesotans. And it will fund ELS at a rate comparable to the 75% of market rate for CCAP.

We are aware of many aspects of what universal early education and care can accomplish: economic stability for families, parental workforce participation, children's developmental and educational outcomes, making a big dent in generation to generation poverty, and big steps toward resolving inequities.

When we change our focus from one of scarcity to one where investments to truly change our state are possible, we see great benefit to all Minnesotans. Truly, "we all will do better, when we all do better"!

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